



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 01/07/2009

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
730 Mass. Ave., Arlington, Ma. 02476
Wednesday, January 7, 2009

MINUTES

Present: Ann LeRoyer, Chair; David White, Patsy Kraemer, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Michele Hassler, Jane Auger

Absent: Leslie Mayer, Teresa DeBenedictis

Minutes – Patsy will do minutes for this month.

Minutes of December, 2008. Patsy moved approval, Jane seconded, unanimous approval.
Ann requested that Jane resend the final minutes that she did for November, 2008.

Discussion of Management Plans:

Reservoir Plan – There hasn't been a meeting of the Reservoir Committee so there is no new information to pass on. Leslie will be involved with the planning of that meeting.

Spy Pond Management Plan – Elizabeth reviewed the changes/additions she has made to the management plan. Elizabeth discussed a run-off problem that is occurring on the pathways during heavy rainstorms. David described that the problem is related to water flow over the paths, rather than along the sides. Elizabeth said that the president of the Friends of Spy Pond has documented this problem and has forwarded the information to Park and Recreation Commission and to Joe Connolly. David said that it's important for designs to take into account where water will flow to forestall erosion.

The Friends of Spy Pond also wants to work with Elizabeth on a management plan for the Pond itself.

Elizabeth listed several items she has accumulated for appendix:

A Plant List

A Tree/Shrub List

A Bird List

An existing Management Plan from the landscape designer is located in the DPW office for reference.

Rte 2 Pathway Management - Elizabeth reviewed this report with updates. She said that there is talk of moving a fence on the pathway to give more access to the path. There is also talk of developing a linear park along this area.

Appendices for this item will also include a GIS map, Spy Pond bird list, plant list, outline of Spy Pond Committee's Improvement Plan.

Updates/Special Projects

Eco Fest – scheduled for March 28. The committee will be meeting within the next two weeks to develop detailed plans.

Path along Route 16 – on hold for a few months.

Green Dog Program – no report

Cooke's Hollow RFP – RFP is complete and should be going out for bid within a week. This is an RFP for developing the plan of action for the park. The timeframe for bids is 4-6 weeks. The bids will be reviewed by a screening committee, including all groups involved with the project.

Mill Brook Corridor Park Research Project – no report

Minuteman Bikeway Trees and Plantings – Eric Segal met with Joey and they went over old plans. According to their research, most of the plantings have been done on owners' property. She reported that there is one stretch though where plantings have been done on public property. Joey suggested our committee and the Bike Committee developing a letter to be sent to all bikeway abutters, asking them to be careful about plantings and about cutting down trees and shrubs. It would be good to get the letter out before the spring. Joey will bring it before the Bicycle Committee.

Arlington Land Trust - the annual meeting will be Monday, January 26, 7-9 pm. Will Brownsberger will be the speaker, talking on the Alewife area. The meeting will be held at Robbins Library. David White asked for some brief time for a representative of Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows to talk at the meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 4th.